GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Public Services – A.P. Forest Department – Departmental proceedings initiated against Sri V. Satya Prasad, Forest Range Officer (Retd.), earlier Dammapeta Range of Khammam Division, Khammam Circle, presently retired from Rajahmundry Circle, under Rule 20 of Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1991 - Punishment of "withholding of entire pension and gratuity besides recovery of an amount of Rs.7,75,800/- with interest as per G.O.Ms.No.33, Finance (TFR.1) Dept., dated 09.02.2006 and treating the suspension period as not on duty" against the Charged Officer - Imposed - Orders – Issued.

ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (Sec.IV) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Ms.No.76 **Dated: 14.12.2023.**

Read the following:

1)From the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests& HoFF, A.P., Guntur, Lr.Ref.No.9526/2008/A&DC-3, dated 03.01.2022.
2)Memo.No.85/Sec.IV/A1/2022, EFS&T (Sec.IV) Dept., dated 14.03.2023.
3)From the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests& HoFF, A.P., Mangalagiri, Lr.Ref.No.9526/2008/A&DC-3, dated 23.08.2023.
4)Letter No.85/Sec.IV/A1/2022, EFS&T (Sec.IV) Dept., dated 25.09.2023.
5)From the Secretary, A.P. Public Service Commission, Vijayawada, Lr.No.GAD03-APPS0DCC/100/2023-DC.SEC-APPSC (Computer No.2233981), dated 05.12.2023.

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In the letter 1st read above, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, A.P., Guntur has informed that the following Articles of Charges were issued to Sri V. Satya Prasad, Forest Range Officer, earlier Dammapeta Range of Khammam Division by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, A.P., Hyderabad in Ref.No.9526/2008/PXT-1, dated 31.05.2008, under Rule 20 of A.P.C.S. (CC&A) Rules, 1991:-

Article-I:"That he has misappropriated an amount of Rs.6,95,200/- which was withdrawn from the VSS accounts and Government accounts of the concerned VSS".

Article-II:"That he has allowed an amount of Rs.80,600/- misappropriated by the VSS Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of Durgammagattu VSS".

2. The Charged Officer has acknowledged the receipt of the Articles of Charges on 30.01.2010 and submitted his written statement of defense on 22.06.2010. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, A.P., Hyderabad has appointed Sri S.M. Selva Raj, IFS., Conservator of Forests, Khammam Circle as Inquiry Officer and Sri K. Suryanarayana, IFS., Divisional Forest Officer, Khammam as Presenting Officer in Proc.No.9526/2008/P3-1 (i&ii), dated 09.03.2010, for conducting the regular inquiry. Subsequently, in Proc.No.9526/2008/P3-1, dated 14.09.2010 the Chief Conservator of Forests, Khammam Circle was appointed as Inquiry Officer.

P.T.O.

3. The Inquiry Officer & Chief Conservator of Forests, Khammam circle has conducted the inquiry and submitted findings in Rc.No.568/2017/M1, dated 26.10.2017, wherein the Inquiry Officer has concluded as follows:-

> **Findings:**"I have gone through the records produced before me and the explanation submitted by the Charged Officer and the witnesses and other relevant documents. It is clear that the Charged Officer has misused his powers and drawn the funds from VSS accounts without any resolutions. Thus violated the guidelines of the Government. Hence it is concluded that both charges I & II levelled against him are proved".

4. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, A.P., Hyderabad has communicated the findings of the Inquiry Officer to the Charged Officer in Ref.No.9526/2008/D&A-3, dated 19.12.2017, for submission of further defence. The Charged Officer has acknowledged the receipt of Final Notice on 19.01.2018 and submitted his further defence statement on 12.02.2021.

5. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, A.P., Guntur has informed that as the Charged Officer has been transferred to Andhra Pradesh State on inter-State transfer on mutual basis, the connected disciplinary case files were received from the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Telangana State, Hyderabad in Rc.No.845/2017/D&A-3, dated 14.02.2018.

6. The disciplinary proceedings are continued under Rule 9 of Andhra Pradesh Revised Pension Rules, 1980, since the Charged Officer has retired from Government Service on attaining the age of superannuation on 31.10.2021.

7. On examination of the matter, Government have taken a provisional decision to impose a punishment of "withholding of entire pension and gratuity besides recovery of an amount of Rs.7,75,800/- with interest as per G.O.Ms.No.33, Finance (TFR.1) Dept., dated 09.02.2006 and treating the suspension period as not on duty" against Sri V. Satya Prasad, Forest Range Officer (Retd.), earlier Dammapeta Range of Khammam Division, Khammam Circle, presently retired from Rajahmundry Circle, under Rule 9 of A.P. Revised Pension Rules, 1980.

8. Accordingly, in Memo., 2nd read above, a Show-cause Notice was issued to the Charged Officer through Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, A.P., Mangalagiri. In the letter 3rd read above, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, A.P., Mangalagiri has informed that the Charged Officer has acknowledged the receipt of Show-cause Notice on 27.06.2023 but did not submit his further defense statement.

9. After careful examination of the matter, Government have decided to confirm the provisional decision to impose a punishment of "withholding of entire pension and gratuity besides recovery of an amount of Rs.7,75,800/- with interest as per G.O.Ms.No.33, Finance (TFR.1) Dept., dated 09.02.2006 and treating the suspension period as not on duty" against Sri V. Satya Prasad, Forest Range Officer (Retd.), earlier Dammapeta Range of Khammam Division, Khammam Circle, presently retired from Rajahmundry Circle, under Rule 9 of A.P. Revised Pension Rules, 1980.

(Contd.P.-3)

10. In the letter 4th read above, the Secretary, A.P. Public Service Commission has been requested to obtain and communicate the concurrence of the Commission on the proposed punishment against Sri V. Satya Prasad, Forest Range Officer (Retd.). In the letter 5th read above, the Secretary, Andhra Pradesh Public Service Commission has stated that the Commission agreed with the proposal of the Government.

11. After careful examination of the entire issue, the Government hereby order to impose a punishment of "withholding of entire pension and gratuity besides recovery of an amount of Rs.7,75,800/- with interest as per G.O.Ms.No.33, Finance (TFR.1) Dept., dated 09.02.2006 and treating the suspension period as not on duty" against Sri V. Satya Prasad, Forest Range Officer (Retd.), earlier Dammapeta Range of Khammam Division, Khammam Circle, presently retired from Rajahmundry Circle, under Rule 9 of A.P. Revised Pension Rules, 1980.

12. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, A.P., Mangalagiri shall take necessary action accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

NEERABH KUMAR PRASAD
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
Sri V. Satya Prasad, Forest Range Officer (Retd.), earlier Dammapeta Range of Khammam Division through Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, A.P., Mangalagiri.
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, A.P., Mangalagiri.

Copy to:
The Accountant General (A&E), Andhra Pradesh, Vijayawada.
The Director of Treasuries & Accounts, Andhra Pradesh, Mangalagiri.
The Secretary, A.P. Public Service Commission, Vijayawada.
The Secretary to A.P. Vigilance Commission, A.P. Secretariat, Velagapudi.
SF/SC (Computer No.1629941).

//FORWARDED:: BY ORDER //

SECTION OFFICER